Region	States/Union Territory	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
South West	Karnataka	111	112	117
	Kerala	73	82	89
West	Maharashtra	151	151	157
	Goa	3	3	3
	Daman & Diu, Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
	TOTAL:	1208	1265	1355

Saffronisation of school syllabus

2038. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of controversy regarding saffronisation of school syllabus during the last regime;

(b) whether it has affected the curriculum in any manners; and

(c) if so, in what manner Government would rectify the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) The National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCFSE) was brought out by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) in the year 2000. The textbooks developed by NCERT under the NCFSE-2000 engaged public and academic attention on account of several inadequacies. A panel of three eminent historians was constituted by the Government to conduct a review of NCERT history textbooks because of reported biases and inadequacies therein. The Executive Committee of the NCERT in July, 2004 considered the Report of the panel. In view of the advanced stage of the current academic session, it was decided that the existing NCERT history textbooks, excluding the controversial portions, would be used by the students of the CBSE affiliated schools alongwith the advisory prepared by NCERT. Five copies each of the history textbooks used in the CBSE schools prior to the introduction of the controversial history textbooks were also distributed free of cost to all the schools for teachers for use as reference books.

To comply with the decision of the Executive Body for restoring the NCERT textbooks after effecting appropriate modifications in line with the existing curriculum for the academic session 2005-06, the following Committees were constituted by the NCERT:—

(a) A History Committee was constituted for making necessary recommendations to review pre-2000 NCERT histroy textbooks. The old NCERT history textbooks, after incorporation of necessary changes based on the recommendations of this Committee, would be restored during 2005-06.

(b) In respect of textbooks other than history textbooks, Quick Review Committees were also constituted by NCERT and errors pointed out by these Committees have been incorporated as errata in the NCERT textbooks for the next academic year.

In keeping with the 5-yearly mandate of the National Policy on Education (NPE) as well as the decision of the Executive Committee of NCERT, a review of the NCFSE has been initiated by the NCERT in the current academic year. For this purpose, a National Steering Group of eminent scholars, activists and teachers has been constituted by the NCERT. In addition, 21 National Focus Groups covering different subject areas, issues of structural reorganization of the education, those of national concern such as gender, problems of the SC/ST children, etc. have also been constituted.

The Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) has separately set up a committee on 10.9.2004, *inter alia*, to suggest an appropriate regulatory mechanism for institutionalizing the issue of preparation of textbooks and curricular material.

The recommendations of the National Steering Group/Focus Groups and those of the Committee set up by CABE would be important inputs in a revised NCFSE.

Protection and rehabilitation of women/young girls in Madhya Pradesh

†2039. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals submitted by the Madhya Pradesh Government upto December, 2004 under the Central Government scheme to protect and rehabilitate the women/young girls; and

(b) the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.